



Royal Oak POLICE DEPT

Criminal Investigations Division
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For Immediate Release

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Suspicious Car Fires Update:

On Saturday, December 12, 2015, at 4:53 a.m., the Royal Oak Police and Fire Department responded to two (2) suspicious car fires in the 1000 and 1100 block of Bauman.

When first responders arrived on the scene both vehicles were engulfed in flames. One of the vehicles was parked in a driveway near a detached garage. The fire spread to the garage causing light to moderate damage. The second vehicle was parked on the street approximately 200 feet away. Both fires were quickly extinguished and no one was injured.

The driver of the vehicle parked on the street reported a piece of equipment used to test soil samples was in the bed of her work truck. The equipment contained trace amounts of radioactive material. The OAKWAY Hazmat team responded to the scene, contained the piece of equipment, and determined there was no risk of exposure to the residents in the area.

Since January 1, 2015, 41 car fires were reported in the City of Royal Oak. While the vast majority of these were not suspicious, nine (9) appear to have been intentionally set and are being investigated. The Royal Oak Police Criminal Investigation Division, in conjunction with the Royal Oak Fire Marshall and Oakland County Arson Investigators, are investigating these incidents.

Anyone with information is encouraged to contact the Royal Oak Police Department at (248) 246-3500.

Suspicious Car Fires

The Royal Oak Police Criminal Investigation Division, in conjunction with the Royal Oak Fire Marshall and Oakland County Arson Investigators, are investigating three (3) suspicious car fires. The fires occurred within a four (4) block radius between Monday, November 23, 2015 at 3:08 a.m., and Thursday November 26, 2015, at 2:38 a.m. The initial investigation indicates the fires originated from the passenger compartment of each vehicle.

On November 23, 2015, Royal Oak officers and firefighters responded to two (2) car fires. The first was in the 900 block of Whitcomb at 3:08 a.m. The second incident occurred in the 1100 block of Bauman at 3:24 a.m. Both vehicles were parked on the street. The fires were quickly extinguished and no one was injured.

On November 26, 2015, at 2:38 a.m., Royal Oak officers and firefighters responded to a car fire in the 600 block of Millard. The vehicle was parked in the driveway and was fully engulfed in flames when first responders arrived on the scene. Officers quickly notified the occupants of the home and evacuated them to a safe area. The heat from the fire damaged the vinyl siding before the flames were extinguished. No one was injured.